

DETAILED ACTION

1. In response to the Amendment filed on January 19, 2006, claims 1-13 have been cancelled and the newly added claims 14-33 are pending.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: In the Detailed Description of the Drawings, page 27, paragraph 3, the pair of buttons is miss-represented by the #28, which is actually the socket. This reference number should be changed to 29. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rentfrow et al. (US Pat No 3,702,739).

Regarding claim 14, Rentfrow et al. discloses a roller system for storing and dispensing a liquid (Fig. 2, 10), comprising a substantially cylindrical body (13) having a central shaft (12c), a tubular wall (90), a first end cap (93) and a second end cap (92), said shaft running substantially along the axis of said body (column 4, lines 43-47) and removably connectable to said first end cap and to said second end cap (column 4, lines 61-64), said tubular wall and said first and

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second end caps defining a chamber for containing a liquid (91); a handle pivotably attachable to said second end cap of said body (12d); an outlet in fluid communication with said chamber (101); and a pump means for dispensing the liquid from said chamber through said outlet (Abstract, line 3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

6. Claims 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rentfrow et al. (US Pat No 3,702,739) in view of Dean et al. (US Pat No 4,218,015).

With regard to claim 15, Rentfrow et al. does not teach a hose removably storable in said handle, however, Dean et al. does disclose a hose (Fig. 4, 9) removably storable in said handle (5). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have the

motivation to modify the roller system of Rentfrow et al. with the hose of Dean et al. to enable a greater reach.

In regards to claim 16, Dean et al. teaches an elongate tube removably attachable to said hose (Fig. 2, 9), said elongate tube having a weighted filter (14) at it's free end and an outlet attachment means at the opposite end (Fig. 3, 15-17), said outlet attachment means is removably engagable with said outlet (13), said elongate tube being insertable through said outlet into said chamber (19). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have the motivation to modify the roller system of Rentfrow et al. with the elongated tube and filter of Dean et al. in order to treat the liquid stored.

Regarding claim 17, Dean et al. discloses a lance having a telescopic section (Fig. 1, 10) leading to an adjustable spray head (11), and at least one switch for controlling the flow of liquid through said lance (18), said end opposite of said spray head being attachable to said hose (9). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have the motivation to modify the roller system of Rentfrow et al. with the lance and spray head of Dean et al. to engage in spraying.

7. Claims 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rentfrow et al. (US Pat No 3,702,739) in view of Fields et al. (US Pat No 6,295,757 B1).

With regard to claim 18, Rentfrow et al. teaches said first end cap being removably attachable to said tubular wall of said body, but does not teach said pump means comprising a pump handle extending through said first end cap into a pump mechanism located within said shaft, however, Fields et al. does teach said pump means comprising a pump handle extending

through said first end cap into a pump mechanism located within said shaft (Fig. 1, 30 & 32). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have the motivation to modify the roller system of Rentfrow et al. with the pump means comprising a pump handle extending through said first end cap into a pump mechanism located within said shaft of Fields et al. for the purpose of accessibility.

In regards to claim 19, Rentfrow et al. discloses wherein said pump mechanism being shorter than said shaft thereby defining a free volume area within the end of said shaft (Fig. 2, 32a), said area of said shaft defining a series of apertures which provide fluid communication between said area within said shaft and said chamber of said body (101).

Regarding claim 20, Rentfrow et al. teaches a pressure release valve (Fig. 2, 15) located in said first end cap (93) and in fluid communication with said chamber.

With regard to claim 21, Rentfrow et al. teaches the first and second end caps while Fields et al. teaches a second tubular wall insertable (Fig. 1, 30). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have the motivation to modify the roller system of Rentfrow et al. with the second tubular wall insertable of Fields et al. for possible separation of liquids.

8. Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rentfrow et al. (US Pat No 3,702,739) in view of Dillon et al. (US Pat No 6,422,321 B1).

In regards to claim 22, Rentfrow et al. does not disclose a plurality of spikes removably attachable, however Dillon et al. does disclose a plurality of spikes removably attachable (Abstract, lines 7-10). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to

have the motivation to modify the roller system of Rentfrow et al. with the plurality of spikes removably attachable of Dillon et al. for aeration procedures.

9. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rentfrow et al. (US Pat No 3,702,739) in view of Lambert et al. (US Pat No 3,686,839).

Regarding claim 23, Rentfrow et al. does not teach an edging means removably attached to said body, however Lambert et al. (Abstract, line 1). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have the motivation to modify the roller system of Rentfrow et al. with the edging means removably attached to said body of Lambert et al. for landscaping procedures.

10. Claim 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rentfrow et al. (US Pat No 3,702,739) in view of Lindberg et al. (US Pat No 4,716,987).

With regard to claim 24, Rentfrow et al. does not disclose a compression disk threadably attachable, however Lindberg et al. does disclose a compression disk threadably attachable (column 3, lines 53-54). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have the motivation to modify the roller system of Rentfrow et al. with the compression disk threadably attachable of Lindberg et al. to pressurize any discharge.

11. Claims 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rentfrow et al. (US Pat No 3,702,739) in view of Bletcher et al. (US Pat No 2,795,460).

In regards to claim 25, Rentfrow et al. teaches said second end cap and said socket (Fig. 2, 92c), but does not teach that said locking mechanism comprises of a first, second, and third portion all mountable to a shaft extending from the end of said handle, said first portion being receivable in said socket extending out from said second end cap, said second portion is a spring insertable in said third portion, and said third portion being receivable in said first portion, however, Bletcher et al. does teach that said locking mechanism comprises of a first (Fig. 2, 10), second (26), and third portion (30) all mountable to a shaft extending from the end of said handle (20), said first portion being receivable in said socket extending out from said second end cap (10), said second portion is a spring insertable in said third portion (26), and said third portion being receivable in said first portion (26). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have the motivation to modify the roller system of Rentfrow et al. with the said locking mechanism comprises of a first, second, and third portion all mountable to a shaft extending from the end of said handle, said first portion being receivable in said socket extending out from said second end cap, said second portion is a spring insertable in said third portion, and said third portion being receivable in said first portion of Bletcher et al. to better secure the handle to the rolling system.

Regarding claim 26, Rentfrow et al. discloses said socket further comprising a section of increased diameter positioned away from the entrance of said socket (Fig. 2, 94 & 95), however Bletcher et al. discloses said increased diameter section being adapted to receive at least one locking portion positioned on said first portion when said first portion is inserted in said socket (Fig. 2, 22). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have the motivation to modify the said socket further comprising a section of increased diameter

positioned away from the entrance of said socket of Rentfrow et al. with the said increased diameter section being adapted to receive at least one locking portion positioned on said first portion when said first portion is inserted in said socket of Bletcher et al. for the greater ability of securing the handle.

12. Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rentfrow et al. (US Pat No 3,702,739) in view of Dean et al. (US Pat No 4,218,015) and furthermore in view of Fields et al. (US Pat No 6,295,757 B1).

With regard to claim 27, Rentfrow et al. teaches a roller system for storing and dispensing a liquid (Fig. 2, 10), comprising a substantially cylindrical body (13) having a central shaft (12e), a tubular wall (90), a first end cap (93) and a second end cap (92), said shaft running substantially along the axis of said body (column 4, lines 43-47) and removably connectable to said first end cap and to said second end cap (column 4, lines 61-64), said tubular wall and said first and second end caps defining a chamber for containing a liquid (91); a handle pivotably attachable to said second end cap of said body (12d); an outlet in fluid communication with said chamber, said outlet being located on said first end cap (101); but does not teach a hose removably storable in said handle, however, Dean et al. does disclose a hose (Fig. 4, 9) removably storable in said handle (5), Rentfrow et al. also does not teach said pump means comprising a pump handle extending through said first end cap into a pump mechanism located within said shaft, however, Fields et al. does teach said pump means comprising a pump handle extending through said first end cap into a pump mechanism located within said shaft (Fig. 1, 30 & 32), Rentfrow et al. discloses wherein said pump mechanism being shorter than said shaft

thereby defining a free volume area within the end of said shaft (Fig. 2, 32a), said area of said shaft defining a series of apertures which provide fluid communication between said area within said shaft and said chamber of said body (101).

13. Claims 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rentfrow et al. (US Pat No 3,702,739) in view of Dean et al. (US Pat No 4,218,015) in further view of Fields et al. (US Pat No 6,295,757 B1) and furthermore in view of Bletcher et al. (US Pat No 2,795,460).

In regards to claim 28, Rentfrow et al. teaches said second end cap and said socket (Fig. 2, 92c), but does not teach that said locking mechanism comprises of a first, second, and third portion all mountable to a shaft extending from the end of said handle, said first portion being receivable in said socket extending out from said second end cap, said second portion is a spring insertable in said third portion, and said third portion being receivable in said first portion, however, Bletcher et al. does teach that said locking mechanism comprises of a first (Fig. 2, 10), second (26), and third portion (30) all mountable to a shaft extending from the end of said handle (20), said first portion being receivable in said socket extending out from said second end cap (10), said second portion is a spring insertable in said third portion (26), and said third portion being receivable in said first portion (26).

Regarding claim 29, Rentfrow et al. discloses said socket further comprising a section of increased diameter positioned away from the entrance of said socket (Fig. 2, 94 & 95), however Bletcher et al. discloses said increased diameter section being adapted to receive at least one locking portion positioned on said first portion when said first portion is inserted in said socket

(Fig. 2, 22). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have the motivation to modify the said socket further comprising a section of increased diameter positioned away from the entrance of said socket of Rentfrow et al. with the said increased diameter section being adapted to receive at least one locking portion positioned on said first portion when said first portion is inserted in said socket of Bletcher et al. for the greater ability of securing the handle.

With regard to claim 30, Bletcher et al. discloses said third portion having a substantially cylindrical shape with defined notches adapted to receive said spring (Fig. 2, 30 & 32), said first, second and third portions of said locking mechanism provide a resilient bias to said locking portion to a normal radially extended position (26). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have the motivation to modify the handle mechanism of Rentfrow et al. with the third portion having a substantially cylindrical shape with defined notches adapted to receive said spring, said first, second and third portions of said locking mechanism provide a resilient bias to said locking portion to a normal radially extended position of Bletcher et al. for better securing of the handle while providing a tighter fit through spring bias.

14. Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rentfrow et al. (US Pat No 3,702,739) in view of Dean et al. (US Pat No 4,218,015) in further view of Fields et al. (US Pat No 6,295,757 B1) in further view of Bletcher et al. (US Pat No 2,795,460) in further view of Dillon et al. (US Pat No 6,422,321 B1) and furthermore in view of Lambert et al. (US Pat No 3,686,839).

The above combination with respect to claim 31 do not disclose a plurality of spikes removably attachable or an edging means removably attached to said body, however Dillon et al. does disclose a plurality of spikes removably attachable (Abstract, lines 7-10), and Lambert et al. teaches an edging means removably attached to said body (Abstract, line 1).

15. Claim 32 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rentfrow et al. (US Pat No 3,702,739) in view of Dean et al. (US Pat No 4,218,015) in further view of Fields et al. (US Pat No 6,295,757 B1) and furthermore in view of Bletcher et al. (US Pat No 2,795,460).

With regard to claim 32, Rentfrow et al. teaches a roller system for storing and dispensing a liquid (Fig. 2, 10), comprising a substantially cylindrical body (13) having a central shaft (12e), a tubular wall (90), a first end cap (93) and a second end cap (92), said shaft running substantially along the axis of said body (column 4, lines 43-47) and removably connectable to said first end cap and to said second end cap (column 4, lines 61-64), said tubular wall and said first and second end caps defining a chamber for containing a liquid (91); a handle pivotably attachable to said second end cap of said body (12d); Rentfrow et al. teaches said second end cap and said socket (Fig. 2, 92c), but does not teach that said locking mechanism comprises of a first, second, and third portion all mountable to a shaft extending from the end of said handle, said first portion being receivable in said socket extending out from said second end cap, said second portion is a sprint insertable in said third portion, and said third portion being receivable in said first portion, however, Bletcher et al. does teach that said locking mechanism comprises of a first (Fig. 2, 10), second (26), and third portion (30) all mountable to a shaft extending from the end of said handle (20), said first portion being receivable in said socket extending out from said

second end cap (10), said second portion is a spring insertable in said third portion (26), and said third portion being receivable in said first portion (26), Rentfrow et al. teaches an outlet in fluid communication with said chamber, said outlet being located on said first end cap (101); but does not teach a hose removably storable in said handle, however, Dean et al. does disclose a hose (Fig. 4, 9) removably storable in said handle (5), Dean et al. teaches an elongate tube removably attachable to said hose (Fig. 2, 9), said elongate tube having a weighted filter (14) at it's free end and an outlet attachment means at the opposite end (Fig. 3, 15-17), said outlet attachment means is removably engagable with said outlet (13), said elongate tube being insertable through said outlet into said chamber (19), Dean et al. discloses a lance having a telescopic section (Fig. 1, 10) leading to an adjustable spray head (11), and at least one switch for controlling the flow of liquid through said lance (18), said end opposite of said spray head being attachable to said hose (9), Rentfrow et al. also does not teach said pump means comprising a pump handle extending through said first end cap into a pump mechanism located within said shaft, however, Fields et al. does teach said pump means comprising a pump handle extending through said first end cap into a pump mechanism located within said shaft (Fig. 1, 30 & 32), Rentfrow et al. discloses said socket further comprising a section of increased diameter positioned away from the entrance of said socket (Fig. 2, 94 & 95), however Bletcher et al. discloses said increased diameter section being adapted to receive at least one locking portion positioned on said first portion when said first portion is inserted in said socket (Fig. 2, 22).

16. Claim 33 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rentfrow et al. (US Pat No 3,702,739) in view of Dean et al. (US Pat No 4,218,015) in further view of Fields et

al. (US Pat No 6,295,757 B1) in further view of Bletcher et al. (US Pat No 2,795,460) and furthermore in view of Lambert et al. (US Pat No 3,686,839).

The above combination with respect to claim 32 do not disclose a plurality of spikes removably attachable or an edging means removably attached to said body, however Dillon et al. does disclose a plurality of spikes removably attachable (Abstract, lines 7-10), and Lambert et al. teaches an edging means removably attached to said body (Abstract, line 1).

Conclusion

17. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Brown et al. (US Pat No 5,836,519) teaches a portable wheeled spraying apparatus having an adjustable handle. Colvin et al. (US Pat No 3,244,465) teaches a rolling liquid transporter. Howard et al. (US Pat No 157,284) discloses an improvement in combined rollers and irrigators. Prieschl et al. (US Pat No 5,961,048) teaches a container for storing, transporting and dispensing liquids. Bridges et al. (US Pat No 4,135,669) discloses a portable, wheeled electric sprayer. Ware et al. (US Pat No 3,940,065) teaches a portable spraying apparatus. Lindsay et al. (US Pat No 487,951) discloses a tennis marker. Smrt et al. (US Pat No 5,749,522) teaches a marking device. Leer et al. (US Pat No 6,565,015) discloses a portable self-energizing pressure sprayer. Iler et al. (US Pat No 5,234,144) teaches a survival container. Edwin et al. (US Pat No 2,989,245) discloses a mobile sprayer. Edwin et al. (US Pat No 2,989,244) teaches a spraying apparatus. Sterken et al. (US Pat No 6,000,349) discloses a rollable container. Edwin et al. (US Pat No 3,002,695) teaches a wheel type sprayer. Dunn et al. (US Pat No 581,416)

discloses a revolving sprayer apparatus. Newson et al. (US Pat No 6,190,077) teaches an apparatus for the selective application of liquid media. Hibbard et al. (US Pat No 3,295,721) discloses a weedicide solution applicator. Gertrude et al. (US Pat No 2,860,359) teaches a moistener. Chen et al. (US Pat No 6,964,380) discloses a spraying gun having flow rate control effect.

18. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to STEVEN M. CERNOCH whose telephone number is (571)270-3540. The examiner can normally be reached on M-T, 730-5, F1 -Off, F2 730-5 (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joe Cheng can be reached on (571) 272-4433. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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